



# TOWN OF ANDOVER

Town Offices  
36 Bartlet Street  
Andover, MA 01810  
(978) 623-8200  
[www.andoverma.gov](http://www.andoverma.gov)

May 24, 2006

Reginald S. Stapczynski, Town Manager  
Andover Town Offices  
36 Bartlet Street  
Andover, MA 01810

Re: The Lowell Junction/I-93 Development Area

Dear Mr. Stapczynski:

On May 23, 2006, during a regularly scheduled public meeting, the Andover Planning Board voted to strongly support a new interchange in the Lowell Junction/I-93 Development Area. The following motion passed unanimously by the Planning Board (5-0):

**In response to the long standing traffic problem in the Ballardvale section of Andover, and as an opportunity to gain access to previously inaccessible commercially zoned land, the Planning Board of the Town of Andover strongly supports a Route 93 Interchange at Lowell Junction to be located between exits 41 and 42. The Board wishes to move Alternates #3 (Trumpet), #4 (Diamond), and #9 (Modified Loop) forward as part of the Interchange Justification Report (IJR) with the understanding that any new interchange considered for the Junction Area take into consideration Andover's community needs, the needs of neighboring communities, and reflects the goals and objectives defined by the Town of Andover Lowell Junction Interchange Task Force, other Town Boards and residents, specifically to:**

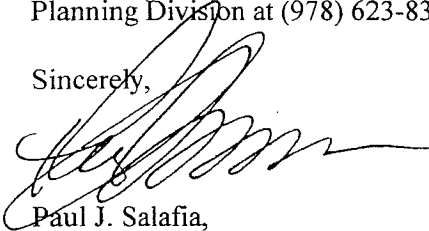
- **Provide direct access from Route 93 to existing businesses in the Lowell Junction Area.**
- **Improve traffic conditions in existing residential neighborhoods and collector roads adjacent to the Lowell Junction Area and the Ballardvale Historic District.**
- **The closure of through traffic via Lowell Junction Road should be considered to maximize the reduction in traffic volume through the Ballardvale area. This off-site mitigation measure has been identified in two of the alternatives by VHB and will allow for the separation of industrial traffic from residential/recreational traffic in the Junction area.**
- **Make every effort to maximize the economic development potential for the Lowell Junction Area, while ensuring that the preferred alternative protects the environment and enhances the overall quality-of-life for all residents.**

- Sidewalks, walking trails, and access improvements to future passive and active recreational areas should closely be examined in development of a new interchange.
- Evaluate the impact of an interchange with the intent to protect Andover's vibrant Downtown Commercial Area.
- Select an alternative that fairly distributes the benefits and burdens of creating a new interchange among Andover, Tewksbury and Wilmington.
- Pursue alternatives for public transportation.
- Select an alternative that provides adequate emergency access.

The Andover Planning Board looks forward to the opportunity in working with the neighboring Town's of Tewksbury and Wilmington, with assistance from the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission and other state and federal agencies in developing an interchange alternative that satisfy each communities needs.

If you should have any questions regarding the Board's action, please do not hesitate to contact the Planning Division at (978) 623-8310.

Sincerely,



Paul J. Salafia,  
Planning Board Chairman

Cc: Andover Board of Selectmen  
Andover Planning Board  
Paul Materazzo, Director of Planning  
Jack Petkus, Director of Public Works  
Thomas J. Urbelis, Town Counsel  
Senator Susan C. Tucker  
Representative Barry A. Finegold  
Representative Barbara L'Italien  
Chris Huntress, Lowell Junction Interchange Task Force  
David Cressman, Town Manager, Town of Tewksbury  
Steven J. Sadwick, Director of Planning, Town of Tewksbury  
Michael A. Caira, Town Manager, Town of Wilmington  
Carole Hamilton, Director of Planning, Town of Wilmington  
Gaylord Burke, Executive Director (MVPC)  
Anthony Komornick, Transportation Program Manager (MVPC)  
Bob Halpin, Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council

PM:I93-LJR9